Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

Therefore, a need exists for a method and apparatus that provides for multiple displays to be coupled to a computer without requiring the computer to include a dedicated video graphics card for each display and provides programmable [[con]] controller.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

The video graphics processing circuit 12 includes a coupling controller 26, a coupling module 28, memory 30, and a plurality of display controllers 32 – 36. The coupling controller 26 may be a software module that receives display preferences 40 from the user interface 16 and/or the CPU 14. The display preferences 40 include preferences as to how the user and/or a specific application running on the CPU 14 would like images from various sources to be displayed on which display 32 – 36. The display preferences 40 include: (i) displaying an image (i.e., the same image) on more than one of the multiple displays; (ii) displaying separate images on each of the multiple displays (e.g., a video image from a television tuner on one display and an application running on the CPU 14 on another display); (iii) displaying a portion of the image on one of the multiple displays and displaying the image on another one of the multiple displays (e.g., having one display supporting a full screen of a drawing applications and the other display supporting the toolbars); (iv) providing different refresh rates for at least two of the multiple displays; (v) providing different resolutions for at least two of the multiple displays; (vi) selecting a particular one of the multiple displays to display a particular type of image (e.g., have the television display images from the video source 15, having the CRT display supporting applications requiring high resolution, and an LCD display supporting applications requiring less resolution); and (vii) displaying a first portion of the image on a first one of the multiple displays and displaying a second portion of the image on a second one of the multiple displays (e.g., page one of a document on one display and page two of the document on another display).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Upon receiving the display preferences 40, the coupling controller 26 determines whether the display preferences 40 can be fulfilled in observance of configuration properties 48. The configuration properties 48 include properties of the multiple displays and properties of the computing system 10. The configuration properties 48 of a display include limitations of the display such as refresh rate, resolution, type of display (e.g., television[[ ]],CRT display, LCD display), etc. The configuration properties 48 of the computing system relate to the capabilities of the display controllers 32 – 36. For example, the configuration properties include one display controller supports a television, another display controller supports a dual scan LCD display, yet another display controller supports lower refresh rate and/or resolution CRT displays, and still another display controller supports high resolution and/or high refresh rate displays. The operational rules of the computing system include rules established by the computing system manufacturer that insure a certain level of performance. For example, the rules may include a stipulation that at least one display needs to be active at any given time and/or a stipulation that a certain one of the display controllers cannot be coupled to a particular display.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 29 with the following amended paragraph:

If the display preferences cannot be fulfilled, the coupling controller 26 determines whether the current configuration can be reconfigured to fulfill the display preferences and to maintain the effective current configuration. For example, if display 18 is a high resolution display and is currently coupled to display controller 32 and the display preferences desires to have display controller 32 support display 20, the coupling controller 26 will determine whether one of the other display controllers is capable of supporting display 18. If so, the coupling controller 26 reconfigures the computing system, in particular, the video graphics processing circuit 12 such that display controller 32 is supporting display 20 and one of the other display controllers 34 or 36 is supporting display 18. To the computer user, the reconfiguration is made with minimal, or no, adverse visual affects to the images being displayed. If, however, the

display preferences cannot be fulfilled, the coupling controller 26 provides an error, or denial, message.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

The memory 30 may be random access memory, cache memory, floppy disk memory, hard disk memory, DVD memory, magnetic tape memory, and/or any other means for storing digital information. In addition, the memory 30 may be memory on the video graphics processing circuit 12, system memory of the computing system, and/or any memory that can be coupled to the computing system and accessed by the video graphics processing circuit 12. The screen memory 38, as previously mentioned, [[stored]] stores display data. The type of display data varies depending on the capabilities of the displays 18 – 22. For example, the display data for a CRT display is RGB pixel data that may be 8, 16, or 32 bits/pixel. The display data for a television is YUV or Y,Cr,Cb data. The display data for an LCD display is 3 bit/pixel RGB pixel data that is stored in a dual scan mode.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 2 illustrates a schematic block diagram of the video graphics processing circuit 12 that includes the coupling controller 26, the coupling module 28, the memory 30, the display controllers 32 – 36, a plurality of display drivers [[52 – 56]] 50-54, and a graphics engine 56. The memory 30 includes a plurality of screen memory sections 38, 42, 44 and configuration memory 46, which stores the configuration properties [[56]] 48. As such, one screen memory section may store display data for a television, another screen memory may store display data for a CRT display, and yet another screen memory may stored display data for an LCD display. Alternatively, the screen memory sections may be storing display data of the same image, but with different RGB data (i.e., 8, 16, or 32 bit/pixel). As another alternative, the screen memory

sections may be storing different windows, etc. As one of average skill in the art, the screen memory sections may store display data in any number of combinations.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

The memory 64 stores programming instructions that, when executed by the processing unit 62, cause the processing unit 62 to function as a plurality of circuits 66 – 70. While executing the programming instructions, the processing unit functions as circuit 66 that receives display preferences regarding at least one display. The processing unit 62 then functions as circuit 68 that determines whether the display preferences can be fulfilled in observance of configuration properties. If so, the processing unit 62 functions as circuit 70 that configures the computing system [[an]] and the at least one display in accordance with the display preferences. The programming instructions stored in memory 64, which may be a separate memory device, and the execution thereof by the processing unit 62 will be discussed in greater detail with reference to Figure 4.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

After the computing system and the displays have been configured or reconfigured, the process proceeds to step 94 where a determination is made as to whether [[tow]] two display controllers are coupled to the same screen memory. If so, the process proceeds to step 96 where the flipping of the screen memory waits until both of the display controllers have finished reading the current frame. The process proceeds to step 98 where a determination is made as to whether new display preferences have been received. If so, the process repeats beginning at step 82. If not, the process processes the present configuration until new display preferences are received.